

Tempe Art in Private Development



Arizona Mills Mall

Entry 4 U.S. Route 10 & Baseline Rd

Greg Tysowski, Architect

Saguaro Totem, 1997

Painted metal

Description: Saguaro Totem utilizes painted metal to stylize the image of Southwestern totem figures. Tysowski designed and directed the six entrances of the mall, amplifying the spaces with ubiquitous sculptural icons. As the overall conceptual planner of the Mills Art and Design Tour, Tysowski's primary function was to establish continuity from the exterior throughout the interior of the mall with a planned series of environmental and artistic features. The design is guided by the idea that retail presentation can be characterized by components which emphasize Arizona. It dramatizes scale and space, creates a strong sense of place, and organizes a public experience through the use of art and architecture.

Artist biography: Tysowski has been a registered architect in Michigan since 1982. He has designed, commissioned and physically participated in wall murals, sculptural wood and metalwork, patterned tile, terrazzo and inlaid wooden flooring, as well as festival, market place, hotel and restaurant projects. His commitment to visual arts has enabled him to set new standards in "art-rich environments."

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, Arizona Mills LLC, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.